

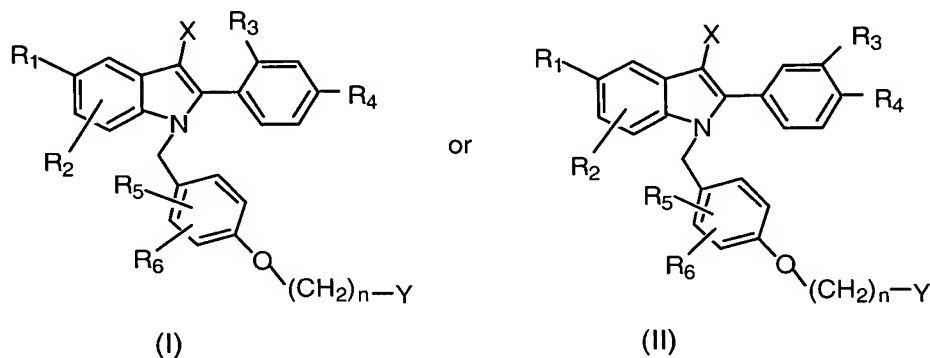
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-107 (canceled).

Claim 108 (new). A method of treating or inhibiting osteoarthritis in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula I or II, having the structures



wherein:

R₁ is selected from H, OH or the C₁-C₁₂ esters (straight chain or branched) or C₁-C₁₂ (straight chain or branched or cyclic) alkyl ethers thereof, or halogens; or C₁-C₄ halogenated ethers including trifluoromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether.

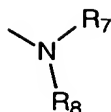
R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, and R₆ are independently selected from H, OH or the C₁-C₁₂ esters (straight chain or branched) or C₁-C₁₂ alkyl ethers (straight chain or branched or cyclic) thereof, halogens, or C₁-C₄ halogenated ethers including trifluoromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether, cyano, C₁-C₆ alkyl (straight chain or branched), or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R₁ is H, R₂ is not OH.

X is selected from H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, halogen;

n is 2 or 3;

Y is selected from:

a) the moiety:



wherein R₇ and R₈ are independently selected from the group of H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or phenyl optionally substituted by CN, C₁-C₆ alkyl (straight chain or branched), C₁-C₆ alkoxy (straight chain or branched), halogen, -OH, -CF₃, or -OCF₃;

b) a five-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C₁C₄ alkyl)-, -N=, and -S(O)_m-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C₁-C₄ alkyl, trihalomethyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C₁-C₄ acyloxy, C₁-C₄ alkylthio, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfinyl, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C₁-C₄)alkyl, -CO₂H-, -CN-, -CONHR₁-, -NH₂-, C₁-C₄ alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄)alkylamino, -NHSO₂R₁-, -NHCOR₁-, -NO₂, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C₁-C₄)alkyl;

c) a six-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C₁C₄ alkyl)-, -N=, and -S(O)_m-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C₁-C₄ alkyl, trihalomethyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C₁-C₄ acyloxy, C₁-C₄ alkylthio, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfinyl, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C₁-C₄)alkyl, -CO₂H-, -CN-, -CONHR₁-, -NH₂-, C₁-C₄ alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄)alkylamino, -NHSO₂R₁-, -NHCOR₁-, -NO₂, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C₁-C₄)alkyl;

d) a seven-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C₁C₄ alkyl)-, -N=, and -S(O)_m-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C₁-C₄ alkyl, trihalomethyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C₁-C₄ acyloxy, C₁-C₄ alkylthio, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfinyl, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C₁-C₄)alkyl, -CO₂H-, -CN-, -CONHR₁-, -NH₂-, C₁-C₄ alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄)alkylamino, -NHSO₂R₁-, -NHCOR₁-, -NO₂, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C₁-C₄)alkyl;; or

e) a bicyclic heterocycle containing from 6-12 carbon atoms either bridged or fused and containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C₁C₄ alkyl)-, and -S(O)_m-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C₁-C₄ alkyl, trihalomethyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C₁-C₄ acyloxy, C₁-C₄ alkylthio, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfinyl, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C₁-C₄)alkyl, -CO₂H-, -CN-, -CONHR₁-, -NH₂-, C₁-C₄ alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄)alkylamino, -NHSO₂R₁-, -NHCOR₁-, -NO₂, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C₁-C₄) alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

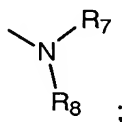
Claim 109 (new). The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

R₁ is selected from H, OH or the C₁-C₄ esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen;

R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, and R₆ are independently selected from H, OH or the C₁-C₄ esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R₁ is H, R₂ is not OH;

X is selected from H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, halogen;

Y is the moiety



R₇ and R₈ are selected independently from H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or combined by -(CH₂)_p-, wherein p is an integer of from 2 to 6, so as to form a ring, the ring being optionally substituted by up to three substituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C₁-C₄ alkyl, trihalomethyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C₁-C₄ alkylthio, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfinyl, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C₁-C₄)alkyl, -CO₂H, -CN, -CONH(C₁-C₄), -NH₂, C₁-C₄ alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄)alkylamino, -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄), -NHCO(C₁-C₄), and -NO₂; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

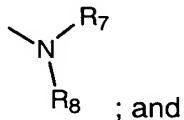
Claim 110 (new). The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

R₁ is OH;

R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, and R₆ are independently selected from H, OH or the C₁-C₄ esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R₁ is H, R₂ is not OH;

X is selected from the group of Cl, NO₂, CN, CF₃, or CH₃;

Y is the moiety



R₇ and R₈ are concatenated together as -(CH₂)_r-, wherein r is an integer of from 4 to 6, to form a ring optionally substituted by up to three substituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C₁-C₄ alkyl, trihalomethyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C₁-C₄ alkylthio, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfinyl, C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C₁-C₄)alkyl, -CO₂H, -CN, -CONH(C₁-C₄), -NH₂, C₁-C₄ alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄)alkylamino, -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄), -NHCO(C₁-C₄), and -NO₂;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 111 (new). The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 1-[4-(2-azepan-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 112 (new). The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1-[4-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.